

stinctively felt: that there actually are two populations of cones living side by side in the Gulf of California which, in spite of extremely non-specific characters and habitat, comprise two objectively definable groups.

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A New Land Snail from the Klamath Mountains, California (Mollusca : Pulmonata : Polygyridae)

BY

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Willow Creek, California

(Plate 5)

In the fall of 1956, I discovered accidentally an unusual land snail belonging to the genus *Vespericola*. Because of winter storms and high water, no additional specimens were found until late summer of 1957. In subsequent summers more specimens of this uncommon snail were collected, and more detailed information on its range and ecology was added. Unfortunately, all of this was lost in a fire in 1960. Further collecting since has replaced the loss, and at the present time there are enough specimens on hand for a critical review. A detailed study indicates the advisability of describing this rare snail as a new species.

Vespericola karokorum TALMADGE, spec. nov.

Description of Holotype

An adult specimen with shell of fairly large size for the genus, low-spired, imperforate

except for a small umbilical chink, with a moderately reflected lip and a well developed crescentic, slightly arcuate parietal tooth. The pale brown or tan colored periostracum is thin and exhibits a matte surface which, under magnification of $\times 20$, consists of extremely fine transverse wrinkles, in some places broken up into minute granules. Major characteristic ornamentation is the prominent, evenly and widely spaced, scimitar-shaped, fine pointed periostracal hairs, apparently not arranged in any definite geometric order and having their bases flattened in the direction of growth of the shell. Base of lip imperceptibly notched and slightly flared over the umbilical region, leaving a tiny umbilical pit not visible from a direct basal view. Total whorls nearly 6, well rounded, with a well impressed suture. The reflected lip is pale brown and has a form similar to other species in the genus. Maximum diameter, 16.2; minimum diameter, 13.6; height, 8.9 mm.

Explanation of Plate 5

Holotype of *Vespericola karokorum* TALMADGE, spec. nov.

Figure 1. Dorsal aspect. Figure 2. Ventral aspect. Figure 3. Lateral aspect.



Figure 1

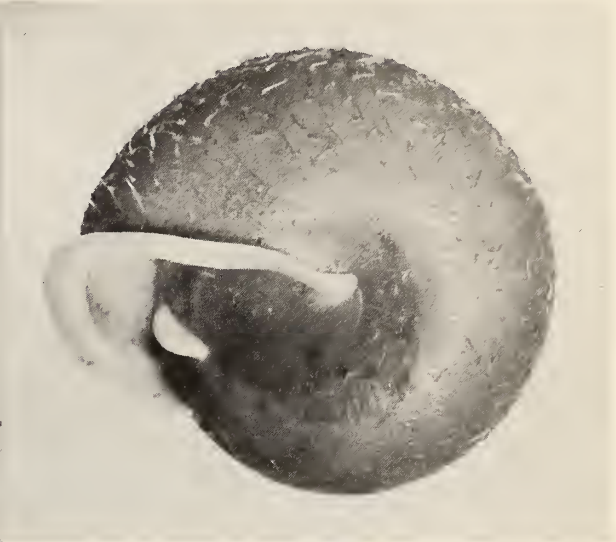


Figure 2



Figure 3